

# GUSEGG 2025



Congratulations! You have been nominated to participate in the Graz International Summer School Seggau 2025 (GUSEGG). What happens now?

The next couple of pages cover the most frequently asked questions and contain some **important information** concerning your stay, so please read them carefully.

Should you still have questions that weren't addressed here, please do not hesitate to contact us at [gusegg@uni-graz.at](mailto:gusegg@uni-graz.at).

## VISA

Austria is part of the Schengen agreement, which allows people to move freely within the Schengen area of the European Union. Anyone entering Austria from the Schengen area only needs a valid passport or some other official document issued for traveling purposes (ID card etc.).

Those of you who will need to obtain a visa at one of the Austrian Embassies will have received a visa letter along with their letter of acceptance in the relevant step in Mobility Online. Please note that you are responsible for finding out whether you actually require a visa or not ([https://www.bmi.gv.at/202/Fremdenpolizei\\_und\\_Grenzkontrolle/Visumpflichtige\\_Laender/start.aspx](https://www.bmi.gv.at/202/Fremdenpolizei_und_Grenzkontrolle/Visumpflichtige_Laender/start.aspx)); if you do not and still received a Visa Letter, please disregard it.

Please let us know at [gusegg@uni-graz.at](mailto:gusegg@uni-graz.at) at which (Austrian) Embassy you are planning to apply, and we will inform them that you will be applying for a visa; you should then be able to obtain it without any problems. Unfortunately, we still cannot guarantee that you will receive one – the Austrian Embassies make these decisions independently.

Please note that Graz International Summer School Seggau cannot refund visa fees in any circumstance.

If you have any problems with your visa, please contact us immediately ([gusegg@uni-graz.at](mailto:gusegg@uni-graz.at)) since the correspondence with embassies and the ministry may take a few days and we want to make sure you get your visa on time.

## MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE

If you do not have an internationally valid health and accident insurance, please make sure of obtaining one before you travel to Austria. If you need a visa in order to enter Austria, please note that proof of a valid insurance will be necessary for your visa application. Insurance will neither be organized nor covered by the summer school. Should you be involved in an accident and not be able to prove valid insurance, you will be asked to cover the costs for the necessary treatment in cash.

## THE VENUE: LOCATION, ACCOMMODATION AND FACILITIES

The Summer School takes place at Seggau Castle (<http://www.seggau.com>), which is located about 40 km south of Graz, near the Slovene border. From its hilltop, Seggau Castle offers a magnificent view of the vineyards of Southern Styria; the facilities include an outdoor pool and a café, and there are numerous options for a stroll or a hike in the neighboring hills. From the castle it takes around 20 mins to walk to the city of Leibnitz, where you will find shopping facilities, pharmacies, etc. You can find more information at <https://www.steiermark.com/en> or <https://www.leibnitz.at/> (German only).

**Meals and accommodation** are covered by your fee (and grant, where applicable). Any beverages (except water) that you consume during the meals, in the breaks, or in the evening have to be paid individually. Please note that there is no cash machine (ATM) at Seggau Castle and the nearest one is in the city of Leibnitz.

We will assign rooms at Seggau Castle; you will be accommodated in either double or triple rooms with bathrooms and toilets. Some of the rooms have double beds: please let us know if you are coming with a friend with whom you would like to share.

A small number of single rooms are available (first come, first serve; a single room surcharge will be applicable): you can request a single room when the relevant option becomes available to you in the Mobility Online workflow.

Similarly, you will be able to inform us of any food requirements and allergies, or any other special accommodations that you may need, in the appropriate step in Mobility Online. You will receive an email informing you that the option to provide this information is now available to you.

## GETTING TO THE VENUE

You are asked to arrive at Seggau Castle on **Sunday, July 6th, 2025, before 6 p.m.** There is no program planned throughout that day, so if you arrive early, you will have time to recover from your journey, and become accustomed to Seggau Castle and its surroundings. In the evening, we will have dinner together. Afterwards, at 8 p.m., the official opening ceremony will take place, together with official representatives of the organizing institutions. This is the official start of the program.

The distance from Graz airport to the venue is about 40 km, and the nearest train station is Leibnitz (5 km). On the opening day (July 6), a **shuttle service from the train station** will be available to students who request it: you will receive an email asking to inform us about your travel details prior to the start of the summer school.

**Departure day is Saturday, July 19th, 2025 (check-out 10 a.m.):** transportation to the station in Leibnitz will be available on this day as well, if required.

For further information about transportation please refer to the “Venue: Seggau Castle” section on the summer school website. For the shuttle service and all questions regarding travel arrangements please contact [gusegg@uni-graz.at](mailto:gusegg@uni-graz.at).

## ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

About one month prior to the start of the program you will receive via email a link to the reading materials for the summer school. In addition, your lecturers might contact you with relevant information regarding the course. **Please check your emails and make sure to read all materials prior to the start of the summer school to prepare for your seminar.**

For your participation in the summer school program, you are required to be present at all lectures, all seminar modules, and all evening events. There is no “partial” participation: you cannot arrive late or leave the Summer School early.

Upon completion of the program, you will get a certificate of attendance issued by the University of Graz. If you are immatriculated at the University of Graz, you will receive 6 ECTS credits and a transcript of records; recognition of the credits is subject to your home university’s discretion, so make sure to check their transfer policy beforehand.

We reserve the right to alter details of any course or cancel a seminar altogether, should it become impossible for a lecturer to attend the Summer School and a substitute of equal standing not be available. You will then be offered an alternative placement in one of the other seminars.

## INTERNET CORNER

At Seggau Castle we will provide a small computer/internet corner for students to use where you will have the opportunity to print small amounts of pages – in case you need to print return tickets for trains and flights, for instance. Please note that these printers cannot be used to print your reading materials. If you already know that you will need to work on the computer frequently, please consider bringing your own laptop. Free WIFI access will be available at the castle. Please also make sure to download all your reading materials before coming to the summer school: if all students download all the materials at the same time, the system may become inoperable.

## EXCURSIONS

On **Saturday, July 12th**, we are organizing a one-day excursion to Graz which includes a visit to the University of Graz, a guided sightseeing tour and an official reception. You will also have some time to stroll around Graz on your own (for ideas visit: <https://www.graztourismus.at/en>). Further details will be provided during the first week of the summer school. Please note that the excursion is an obligatory part of the program for all participants, even for those of you who study in Graz or know Graz well. Within the context of the Summer School, together with so many international students and teachers, it will be a different and enriching experience.

On **Sunday, July 13th**, you will have the chance to go to Maribor by train and visit the city with local Uni Maribor students (optional excursion).

## PERSONAL INFORMATION / THINGS TO BRING

Please make sure to be prepared for campus life, excursions and social programs. Do not forget to bring along:

- Passport (with visa if needed) or ID-Card (remember to bring a copy of your passport and other important documents, in case you lose one of the originals);

- Cash, Bank Card, Credit Card;
- Any medication that you may require over the course of the two weeks (Austria has strict rules concerning medication, and only very few products can be bought without a prescription);
- Enough clothes, also for rainy weather (laundry service will be available once, for a fee, halfway-through the program);
- Learning aids (books, notebooks, pens and pencils...)

Sheets and towels will be provided by the castle.

There is an outdoor swimming pool at the venue, and also a small lake within walking distance: don't forget your swimsuit! Seggau Castle provides towels for swimming in the pool.

The voltage in Austria is 230V. If you want to use your own electrical devices at Seggau Castle, please check whether you need to bring an adapter.

### WEATHER

The climate in Styria is continental, i.e. we usually have hot summers (around 30°C) and temperatures drop to ca. 18-20°C at night. However, depending on the weather, it can get a lot colder than that. If you want to check what the weather is like before leaving, you should look up Leibnitz (near Seggau), or you might take a look at this website (German): <https://wetter.orf.at/steiermark/?tmp=17393>.

### YOUR ADDRESS DURING THE SUMMER SCHOOL

Seggau Castle  
 Seggauberg 1  
 8430 Leibnitz  
 Austria

### FURTHER QUESTIONS?

If there is anything else you would like to know, we will be happy to help you wherever we can. You can contact us anytime at: [gusegg@uni-graz.at](mailto:gusegg@uni-graz.at).

**We are looking forward to meeting you soon at Seggau Castle!**

